

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Sub B/ 1. (Currently Amended) A network telephone comprising:
a microphone coupled to provide voice data to a network;
a speaker configured to facilitate listening to voice data from the network;
a dialing device coupled to facilitate routing of voice data upon the network;
a first port configured to facilitate communication with a first network device;
a second port configured to facilitate communication with a second network device; and
a prioritization circuit coupled to apply a first processing priority level prioritization to voice data provided by the microphone and a second processing priority level to non-voice data.

2. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the first port is configured to facilitate communication of voice data packets with the first network device and the second port is configured to facilitate communication of voice data packets with the second network device.

3. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the microphone and the speaker at least partially define a handset.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

4. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the dialing device comprises a keypad.

5. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the first port and the second port comprise Ethernet 10/100 ports.

6. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch.

7. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by an Ethernet switch.

8. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein:

the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch; and

further comprising a voice engine processor in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor being configured to digitize and compress voice data from the microphone and to decompress and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker.

9. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein:

the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch; and

further comprising a voice engine processor in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor being configured to digitize, compress and packetize voice data from the microphone and to depacketize, decompress

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker.

10. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the prioritization circuit is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate prioritization thereof.

11. (Original) The network telephone as recited in claim 1, wherein the prioritization circuit is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate prioritization thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) A network telephone comprising:
a switch controller having at least one port for facilitating electrical communication with a network, wherein the switch controller is configured to assign a first processing priority level to voice data and a second processing priority level to non-voice data; and

a voice engine processor in electrical communication with the switch controller, the voice processor having a microphone port for facilitating electrical communication with a microphone and having a speaker port for facilitating electrical communication with a speaker.

13. (Currently Amended) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller ~~is configured to apply prioritization~~ applies a high processing priority level to voice packets.

14. (Currently Amended) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to ~~apply~~

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

~~prioritization to voice data packets and to route voice data packets over a network.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to ~~apply prioritization to voice data packets and to route voice data packets over an Ethernet.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to ~~apply prioritization to voice data packets and to route voice data packets over the Internet.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply a first processing priority level ~~prioritization~~ to voice data packets provided by the microphone and coupled to route the voice data packets over a network.

18. (Currently Amended) The network telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate ~~prioritization thereof~~ assigning a first processing priority thereto.

19. (Currently Amended) The network telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate ~~prioritization thereof~~ assigning a first processing priority thereto and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

20. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to be compatible with Internet Protocol.

21. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein electrical communication between the switch controller and the voice engine processor is facilitated via a media independent interface and a microprocessor interface.

22. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller comprises two ports for facilitating communication with the network.

23. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller comprises two Ethernet ports for facilitating communication with the network.

24. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller comprises two 10/100 megabit/sec Ethernet ports for facilitating communication with the network.

25. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor further comprises a keypad port for facilitating communication with a keypad.

26. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor further comprises a display port for facilitating communication with a display.

27. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to be placed serially into a Ethernet transmission medium intermediate a network interface card and a switch.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

28. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to compress voice communications.

29. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to compress voice communications using PCM compression.

30. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to suppress silence.

31. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide a desired level of quality of service.

32. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide signaling for voice traffic.

33. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide signaling for PBX voice traffic.

34. (Original) The telephone as recited in claim 12, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide echo control.

35. (Currently Amended) A network telephone comprising a prioritization circuit coupled to tag voice data packets with information representative of a priority thereof to ensure that the voice data packets are given a higher processing priority

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

than non-voice packets and coupled to read tags associated with packets.

Claims 36-67 (Cancelled)

Sub
BT
68. (Currently Amended) A network telephone system comprising:

a network; and

at least one network telephone, each network telephone comprising a network switch coupled to apply prioritization assign a first priority level to voice packets and a second priority level to non-voice packets and wherein the network switch is further coupled to read prioritization of voice packets.

69. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating voice via a network, the method comprising:

facilitating routing of voice data upon the network via a dialing device;

providing voice data to a network via a microphone;

listening to voice data from the network via a speaker;

facilitating communication with a first network device via a first port;

facilitating communication with a second network device via a second port; and

prioritizing voice data provided by the microphone over non-voice data.

70. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the first port is configured to facilitate communication of voice packets with the first network device and the second

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

port is configured to facilitate communication of voice packets with the second network device.

71. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the microphone and the speaker comprise a handset.

72. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the dialing device comprises a keypad.

73. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the first port and the second port comprise Ethernet 10/100 ports.

74. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch.

75. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by an Ethernet switch.

76. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein:

the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch; and

further comprising a voice engine processor in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor being configured to digitize and compress voice data from the microphone and to decompress and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker.

77. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein:

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

the prioritization circuit is defined by a network switch; and

further comprising a voice engine processor in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor being configured to digitize, compress voice and packetize data from the microphone and to depacketize, decompress and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker.

78. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the prioritization circuit is configured to tag voice packet to facilitate prioritization thereof.

79. (Original) The method as recited in claim 69, wherein the prioritization circuit is configured to tag voice packet to facilitate prioritization thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof.

80. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
using a switch controller having at least one port to facilitate electrical communication with a network, wherein the switch controller is configured to prioritize processing of voice packets over non-voice packets; and

using a voice engine processor in electrical communication with the switch controller to process voice, the voice processor having a microphone port for facilitating electrical communication with a microphone and having a speaker port for facilitating electrical communication with a speaker.

81. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice packets.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

82. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice packets and to route voice packets over a network.

83. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice packets and to route voice packets over an Ethernet.

84. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice packets and to route voice packets over the Internet.

85. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice packets provided by the microphone and coupled to route the vice packets over a network.

86. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice packet to facilitate prioritization thereof.

87. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice packet to facilitate prioritization thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof.

88. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to be compatible with Internet Protocol.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

89. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein electrical communication between the switch controller and the voice engine processor is facilitated via a media independent interface and a microprocessor interface.

90. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller comprises two ports for facilitating communication with the network.

91. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller comprises two Ethernet ports for facilitating communication with the network.

92. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller comprises two 10/100 megabit/sec Ethernet ports for facilitating communication with the network.

93. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor further comprises a keypad port for facilitating communication with a keypad.

94. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor further comprises a display port for facilitating communication with a display.

95. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the switch controller is configured to be placed serially into a Ethernet transmission medium intermediate a network interface card and a switch.

96. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to compress voice communications.

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

97. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to compress voice communications using PCM compression.

98. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to suppress silence.

99. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide a desired level of quality of service.

100. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide signaling for voice traffic.

101. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide signaling for PBX voice traffic.

102. (Original) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide echo control.

103. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating voice via a network, the method comprising tagging voice packets with information representative of a priority thereof to ensure the tagged voice packets are given a higher processing priority than non-voice packets and reading tags associated with packets.

Claims 104-135 (Cancelled)

Appln No. 09/452,043

Amdt date September 19, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 2, 2003

136. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating voice comprising:

providing a network; and

applying a higher prioritization to voice packets than non-voice packets to ensure that the voice packets are given a higher processing priority than the non-voice packets and reading prioritization of voice packets via at least one network telephone, each network telephone comprising a network switch.
